Mint of the U.S. at Philadelphia

M & R. Department

Philadelphia 8. Jan. 1880.

Sir

I present herewith the Reports on Melting for the Month of November, 1879.

The diminished quantity of Silver is replaced by a due proportion of Gold.

In the number of melts made and condemned the Report is satisfactory enough.

While the general ratio of wastage is not high, tobe further reduced by sweep, &c. it has not yet answered my expectation by lessening.

I exhibit the Silver melting in two forms of Report, No 1 being made by arranging the Items of No 2, according tothe best of my judgment. No 2 is a transcript of the daily workings, with errors eliminated, and its constantly occurring irregularities show the impracticability of keeping each lot

worked

RG104 E-1 Box 120

worked by itself in our vaults, stuffed to overflowing,
The difficulty is the greater when much Gold is simultaneously worked, because the silver space is lessened.
The difficulty of getting reliable daily returns of melting,
which we have thus far sought in vain to remedy, keeps
us continually anxious about our accountability, always
leaving a lurking doubt about the absolute correctness
of our accounts until the annual closure of accounts.
Our confidence is in the moral certainty of our accounts
being fairly within the legal limits of wastage. The
Annual Settlements show us far within those limits.

Very respectfully yours
Sa C Booth
M & R.

RG104 E-1 Box 120

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 120

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Jas. C. Booth
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